

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

A novel human cDNA, termed PRSS11-L, was isolated  
5 which encodes a polypeptide that belongs to the S2/HtrA  
serine protease family. The PRSS11-L mRNA is widely  
expressed in several tissues throughout the body by  
multi-tissue Northern blotting. The full-length PRSS11-L  
cDNA, was cloned, expressed and purified. Proteolytic  
10 activity was demonstrated using the protein substrate  
casein. The isolated nucleic acid or polypeptide  
molecule of the invention can be used in detection  
assays, gene therapy, and screening assays.